

Media Release
2012 Arizona Transit Association
Annual Conference

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**Arizona Transit Association Conference includes
Maintenance ‘Rodeo,’ pre-conference sessions**

PHOENIX -- The Arizona Transit Association’s (AzTA) 2012 Annual Conference, “Showcasing Value in Transit,” will be held at the High Country Conference Center at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff on April 23-24. The conference is being co-hosted with the Arizona Department of Transportation; this year’s partners include the Livable Communities Coalition, Local Arizona First, Smart Growth America and the Urban Land Institute. The event will provide attendees from across the state an opportunity to hear from local, regional, state and national transit leaders and a variety of guest speakers.

For information on conference sessions and registration materials, please visit www.azta.org.

In addition to the main conference sessions on April 23-24, there will be several pre-conference events. On April 21-22, ADOT will hold their first ever Maintenance “Rodeo” hosted by the Northern Arizona Intergovernmental Transit Authority. The “Rodeo” will be an opportunity for technicians from across the state to learn from original equipment manufacturers and component experts and test technical skills in a competition format in a variety of maintenance categories. Sessions will include: alternators, wheel chair lifts, battery testing, diesel engines, automatic slack adjusters, A/C, tires and multiplexing systems.

The competition begins at noon on Saturday and will conclude after the awards banquet on Sunday.

On Sunday afternoon, conference attendees will have an opportunity build leadership skills through a “High Ropes Adventure” and tour both Northern Arizona University and downtown Flagstaff in a “Walkability Field Trip.” The High Ropes Adventure will be held at the Flagstaff Extreme Adventure Course. The course is a series of exciting physical challenges suspended in trees at various heights. Participants will experience new thrills and test personal limits in a safe and controlled environment. The difficulty increases from one course to the next and caters to a wide range of skill levels.

The “Walkability Field Trip” will begin at 4:30 on Sunday afternoon and run until approximately 6 p.m. This multimodal, interactive session will showcase the Mountain Link, Northern Arizona Intergovernmental Transit Authority’s new bus rapid transit route and the pedestrian facilities that feed into it. This session has no additional costs for conference attendees, but pre-registration is required.

For more information on all of these pre-conference sessions and to register for each, go to www.azta.org.